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EARTHQUAKE OF JUNE 20, 1897 (OAKLAND).

By ALLEN H. BABCOCK.

A prolonged shock of earthquake was observed here to-day, commencing at 12^h 13^m 9^s P. M., P. S. T., and continuing for at least twenty-five seconds. It was noticed first as a sharp settling of the floor; then came a rumbling sound, followed by a slow, swaying motion, which gradually increased in strength and frequency for about ten seconds, when the maximum was reached. At this time the vibrations were decidedly marked: the house creaked, the windows rattled, and the pictures bumped against the walls. The swing of the chandeliers was in an approximately north and south line. The vibration gradually diminished, until 12^h 13^m 34^s, when they could no longer be observed. In a jeweler's shop, about two blocks away, a pendulum clock, which was fastened on a wall running in an east and west direction, had stopped at 12^h 13^m 27^s. This clock is usually kept very close to standard time.

The intensity of the shock at its maximum may be estimated at IV, or possibly V, on the ROSSI-FOREL scale. Two persons report a very faint shock about fifteen minutes later, but it was not observed by me.

OAKLAND, Cal., June 20, 1897.

2826 California Street, }
SAN FRANCISCO, June 23, 1897. }

. . . On Sunday, June 20th, at 12:13 P. M., I felt a slight shock of earthquake, location N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 32, Township 17 S., Range 14 E., M. D. B. & M., on Cantua Creek, Fresno County. Duration about fifteen seconds; 9 shock; undulation and whirling motion.

Yours respectfully, S. C. LILLIS.